

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 3 and 4 as follows:

Claims 1 and 2 (Canceled)

3. (New) A fiber array comprising bare and jacketed optical fiber sections for housing an array of bare and jacketed portions of first and second optical fibers of a ribbon-shaped optical fiber multi-core line, said bare optical fiber section comprising V-grooves in a V-grooved substrate, said V-grooves receiving said bare portions of said first and second optical fibers, wherein said first optical fibers transmit optical signals, and said second optical fibers transmit no optical signals, and are disposed on at least the outermost sides of the array of said first and second optical fibers, and disposed over at least the entire length of the fiber array.

4. (New) A waveguide device comprising a fiber array comprising bare and jacketed optical fiber sections for housing an array of bare and jacketed portions of first and second optical fibers of a ribbon-shaped optical fiber multi-core line, said bare optical fiber section comprising V-grooves in a V-grooved substrate, said V-grooves receiving said bare portions of said first and second optical fibers, said first and second optical fibers being optically connected to a waveguide chip and sealed in a package, wherein said first optical fibers

transmit optical signals, and said second optical fibers transmit no optical signals and are disposed on at least the outermost sides of the array of said first and second optical fibers, and disposed from said fiber array to at least the interface of the package for fixing the first and second optical fibers.